

Amendment to the Specification:

Please cancel attached Appendices A and B, since these appendices were incorporated by reference in their entireties in Applicant's amendment of January 20, 2004.

On page 9, lines 17-25 please amend as follows:

The mailing system of the present invention is completely controlled via a computer (1308), as shown in Fig. 7, and a user-friendly, software program as illustrated in the flow charts (Figs. 11A-11B, 12A-12B, 13A-13B, 14A-14B, 15, 16A-16B, 17A-17B, and 18) and data flow diagrams (Figs. 19-23). Preferably, an I.B.M. compatible computer using an Intel 386 for the CPU, having a minimum 33 HZ clock speed, is employed. The inventive software is further defined by its source code, which is provided in ~~the attached~~ Appendix A.

Between page 15, line 9 and page 16, line 22, please amend as follows:

The inventive system (100) most preferably comprises an automatic feed transport system (149) which is capable of automatically feeding the letter directly into the postage meter (211). As shown in Fig. 4A-4E, in particular Fig. 4A, the automatic transport system (149) preferably comprises a series of rollers (149a) contained within a letter platform (150). Integral with the platform (150) is a meter strip plate (201) and an electronic letter weighing scale comprising a weigh plate (200) and a load cell (215). To weigh the letter, the user places the letter onto the weigh plate (200). The presence of the letter is then detected by an optical sensor (225). The load cell (215), which is connected to the computer (1308) via Analog to Digital weigh card (1202) and the software program, as shown in Figs. 6A-6C, will weigh the letter. However, the load cell will not weigh the letter until such time as the user has removed his or her hand. This is done by utilizing a software algorithm which will detect minute vibrations which are always present when a human being is touching a scale. The special weighing algorithm is also illustrated in its entirety in ~~the attached appendices, specifically Appendix B~~. While the letter (L) is being weighed, the computer (1308) simultaneously checks to see if the postage meter (211) is in the correct position to accept the letter through the automatic feed system (149). The computer determines the postage meter position by particularly looking into the inputs of limit switch (209) and limit switch (204). If limit switch (204) is in the ON position, then the postage meter is in the correct position to accept the letter. In this case, the computer will activate linear actuator (207) which will move the translation table (216) to the forward position (c) (Fig. 4C). However, if the computer detects that limit switch (209) is in

the ON position and limit switch (221) is in the OFF position, it will cause the linear actuator (207) to retract until such time as limit switch (221) will be in the ON position. This operation is particularly important as the postage meter (211) cannot be rotated in any other position but the backward position. All rotation of the postage meter (211) to the letter position (c) or the postage meter strip dispensing position (e), as shown in Figs. 4C and 4E, respectively, must take place in the backward position in which linear actuator (207) is retracted (positions b and d as shown in Figs. 4B and 4D, respectively). Once this position is achieved, the computer will activate the rotation motor (202) to rotate the postage meter rotation table (203) which is supported on at least one rotation bearing (210).

On page 34, lines 7-8, please amend as follows:

These functions are discussed in more detail below as well as in the source code provided in ~~the attached~~ Appendix A.